KIDNAPPED REPORTER CLAIMS SWAP, PG 6

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VANCOUVER • THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2008 metronews.ca

Police to look into leaked documents

MARIA COOTAUCO
for Metro Vancouver

BAILOUT With just a few days left in his mayorship, Sam Sullivan has asked Vancouver Police to investigate the alleged internal theft of documents related to the Olympic Village bailout.

A numbered document from a controversial Oct. 14 in-camera meeting belonging to NPA mayoral candidate Peter Ladner went missing and turned up two days later on the desk of NPA Coun. B.C. Lee.

The document tipped media to the city's $100-million loan to the developers of the Olympic Village at False Creek.

Ladner and Lee deny any involvement in the incident.

Also yesterday, Ladner's mayoral opponent Gregor Robertson staunchly rejected any speculation that a Vision Vancouver councillor may have been behind the missing document.

"I have total confidence that they're not involved in this," he said, adding that if elected, he'd hold an open council meeting to set the record straight about what went on at the meeting within 30 days of taking office.

"The project has to move forward — we can't compromise that," he said. "But we need to understand what's fact and what's fiction that's emerged over these last few days."

Please recycle

7th shoe found on B.C. beach

JEFF HODSON
jeff.hodson@metronews.ca

Another running shoe with what police suspect are human remains inside has washed ashore in Richmond along the South Arm of the Fraser River, RCMP in Vancouver said yesterday.

The left-foot New Balance running shoe, which was discovered by a Richmond couple on the bank of the Fraser at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, is the seventh shoe containing remains found along the Fraser River or Gulf Islands in the past 16 months.

The first five running shoes contained human feet.

A sixth shoe, found near the Vancouver Island-town of Campbell River, B.C. in June, was a hoax.

Const. Annie Linteau, an RCMP spokeswoman, said in a release yesterday that because of the previous hoax, RCMP major crime investigators were proceeding with caution.

She noted, however that the fourth foot, found in May on Kirkland Island (also in the South Arm of the Fraser River between Richmond and Delta), was also a New Balance running shoe. The fourth was a right foot and was the only woman's foot found. Linteau said investigators were working to determine whether the two shoes are connected.

In the previous five shoes, investigators stressed that there was no evidence of foul play or that the feet were severed. Police said the feet became "disarticulated" from the ankle through decomposition.

ANDY CLARK/REUTERS

Canucks goalie Roberto Luongo tries to cover the puck as teammate Alex Burrows knocks Colorado Avalanche's Paul Stastny to the ice during first period NHL play yesterday at GM Place. Colorado took the game 2-1 in a shootout. Coverage, page 14

Luongo breaks the Canucks shutout record

HOCKEY Roberto Luongo entered last night's game against the Colorado Avalanche at GM Place needing only 11 minutes and five seconds of scoreless hockey to pass the franchise — and his own personal — shutout record of 212 minutes, 12 seconds.

Blowing away that mark, he held the shutout until early in third period when he gave up a power play goal to Paul Stastny with a crowd in front of the net.

Luong's record-breaking streak ended at 242 minutes, 36 seconds. In the end all that mattered was the point the Canucks picked up losing 2-1 in a shootout.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Food pg 18
Snacks fit for a superspy

Celebrity Buzz pg 26
Brangelina to adopt again?

Style pg 19
Hot holiday make-up tips

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Quality time with Mr. Ladner and Mr. Geller
In an effort to get more young people interested in the civic election, NPA mayoral candidate Coun. Peter Ladner and council candidate Michael Geller are taking part in a Come Meet Our Dads event at the Cambie Hotel tonight. The event, which begins at 7:30 p.m., is being organized by the candidates' children. METRO VANCOUVER

Local

Better sweaters

The Vancouver Canucks are set to unveil their new third sweater today before the start of the Sports Celebrities Festival at the Fairmont Hotel Vancouver. Check tomorrow's Metro for a photo of the jersey.
METRO VANCOUVER

News in brief

INTERNET Craigslist users posted warnings yesterday that someone is allegedly posting ads seeking to lure women with free rent. They say the RCMP have been informed and are monitoring IP addresses. The person posting the ads offers shelter to women and then demands sex.

MEDIA CanWest Global announced yesterday it will lay off five per cent of its staff, or 560 jobs. More than 40 people in B.C. will lose their jobs, including 23 at CHBC Kelowna, 18 at CHEK in Victoria and four at Global Vancouver.

ASSAULT Three teen girls from Abbotsford were arrested after a woman was pushed, beaten and had her hair pulled. The woman was attacked after she refused to share her cigarettes, saying they were too young to smoke. The woman was not hospitalized. METRO VANCOUVER

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WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Movies showtimes, trailers reviews and purchase tickets at metronews.ca/movies

Lotteries

Lotto 6/49	12, 30, 34, 38, 39 & 43 Bonus 36
BC 49	5, 10, 21, 23, 38 & 44 Bonus 41
Extra	19, 27, 58, 94. These results are not official.

RAFE ARNOTT / METRO VANCOUVER

Members of the Rhythm & Action Arts Society break out to model 2010 Olympics Aboriginal licensed clothing lines at the Bill Reid Gallery of Northwest Coast Art in Vancouver yesterday.

First Nation fashions

KRISTEN THOMPSON
kristen.thompson@metronews.ca

A new line of Aboriginal Vancouver 2010 merchandise was launched yesterday at a fashion show displaying clothing created by First Nation designers and displaying First Nation images.

Aboriginal youth at the Bill Reid Gallery modelled T-shirts, hoodies, ball caps and bags, which will be available around Vancouver and at HBC stores across Canada.

The Vancouver Organizing Committee (VANOC) and the Four Host First Nations Society (FHFN) established the Aboriginal Licensing And Merchandising Program to showcase authentic Aboriginal arts and culture. Tewanee Joseph, executive director and CEO of FHFN, said the partnership is the first of its kind in Olympic history.

"We are writing history by celebrating our diversity," Joseph said, adding that the program will raise awareness about Aboriginal peoples and cultures.

"We're taking Aboriginal culture and bringing it to the world stage," he said.

One-third of royalties from the sale of the products will go to the Vancouver 2010 Aboriginal Youth Legacy Fund to support education, sport and cultural initiatives.

Premier takes Canada Line out for test-drive

JEFF HODSON
jeff.hodson@metronews.ca

A small group of passengers got a sneak preview yesterday of the under-construction Canada Line during a trial run from Richmond to the airport.

"It's absolutely first-rate," said Transportation Minister Kevin Falcon, who took part in the trial voyage from Bridgeport station in Richmond to the Vancouver International Airport station, along with Premier Gordon Campbell and MP James Moore.

"It's going to be such a jewel for the cities of Richmond and Vancouver … 18 million people a year go through that airport and they're going to be able to access this incredible transit system right to the heart of Vancouver in about 25 minutes."

The $2-billion Canada Line will be completed by November 2009, and is projected to be transporting 100,000 people every day by 2010.

PHOTO COURTESY GOVERNMENT OF B.C.

Transportation Minister Kevin Falcon, left, and Premier Gordon Campbell ride the Canada Line from Richmond to the airport.

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Scientists found salmon like certain water temperature

UBC researchers have identified the optimal water temperature range for several Pacific salmon species allowing them to more accurately predict the impact of climate change. The findings are among the first to find a specific relationship between river temperature and salmon mortality rate. **METRO VANCOUVER**

RCMP commissioner admits Games will stretch force thin

POLICING RCMP Commissioner William J.S. Elliot yesterday conceded the force will be "stretched thin" when Vancouver hosts the 2010 Winter Olympics.

"It's a challenge for us to meet all of the demands on us," he said to reporters after addressing the Vancouver Board of Trade. "That's why we put such an emphasis on recruiting."

This year, about 1,800 cadets will go through the RCMP's Regina training facilities, backfilling the space left by the hundreds of officers retiring this year.

On the recent questionable behaviour of RCMP members, including the crash involving an allegedly intoxicated officer that killed a man last month, Elliot stressed the "RCMP is a big organization … we are putting more emphasis on ethics education, leadership training and development."

MARIA COOTAUCO/
FOR METRO VANCOUVER

News in brief

HEIST Police are seeking two men in relation to a robbery at the Cellunet store on the 6300 block of Fraser Street. Two men in their early 20s allegedly beat the store clerk before robbing $15,000 worth of cellphones along with cash on Oct. 22.Anyone with information is asked to call 604-717-3222.

CHARGE A 17-year-old Abbotsford resident is facing attempted murder charges in connection to an assault at a house party last month.

ROBBERY A 27-year-old man with a replica handgun allegedly robbed the Sutton Place Wine Merchant on Burrard Street. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Virks healing in restorative justice

KRISTEN THOMPSON
kristen.thompson@metronews.ca

It was eleven years ago tomorrow that 14-year-old Reena Virk was beaten to death in a Victoria park.

Yesterday, a corrections officer who worked with one of the teens involved in her death said Warren Glowatski was rehabilitated, and the Virk family was helped to heal, through a series of face-to-face meetings.

Gordon Cruse was speaking in Vancouver at a conference kicking off Restorative Justice Week.

"Restorative justice is a healing process that changes values," Cruse said, adding that it brings together offenders and their victims, letting offenders take responsibility and victims forgive.

He said the Virks told Glowatski his promise to "try to lead a good life" was a "gift" to them.

Process

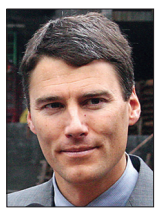
- Gordon Cruse said it's not for everyone, and participants and victims must volunteer to take part.

Catherine Bargen, provincial restorative justice coordinator, said punishment often does not hold offenders accountable, nor does it address the root causes of crime or help victims heal.

"The needs of victims and offenders … are not achieved through punishment, but through support and accountability," she said.

Robertson touts mega project

DEVELOPMENT The Woodward's building in the Downtown Eastside is on time and on budget, according to Vision mayoral hopeful Gregor Robertson.


Robertson

"This is an example of a mega project gone right," Robertson said yesterday in front of the Woodward's construction site.

When completed, the $330-million building will house 500 condo units, 200 social housing units, the Simon Fraser University Centre for the Contemporary Arts, a London Drugs and a bank.

If elected mayor in Saturday's election, Robertson pledged to fast-track similar projects that incorporate affordable housing.

MARIA COOTAUCO/
FOR METRO VANCOUVER

Students, CAW call for more buses

TRANSIT TransLink isn't replacing the buses it retires and is overlooking underserviced routes, some students said at a protest yesterday in front of a bus lineup at Commercial Drive and East Broadway.

"Students are increasingly reliant on affordable and accessible transit to be able to actually obtain their education," said Stefanie Ratjen of University of British Columbia's alma mater society.

Student groups at UBC and Simon Fraser University teamed up with Canadian Auto Workers Local 111 to urge the government to add 500 new buses to the TransLink fleet by 2012.

Currently, Vancouver is behind transit systems in Toronto and Montreal, with one bus for every 1,800 residents here versus one bus for every 1,200 residents in those cities. MARIA COOTAUCO/
FOR METRO VANCOUVER

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Auto bailout package in question

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty threw an auto industry bailout package into question yesterday with comments that even people in his own riding — which has a GM truck plant — were not interested in handing the ailing sector taxpayer-funded assistance. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Canada

Mounties in India over bombing

Five RCMP officers have travelled to India to investigate the 1985 Air India bombing, say reports. The Mounties were to question two Sikh separatists at the high-security Burail prison in Chandigarh, reported the Times of India. Air India Flight 182 went down in the Atlantic Ocean off the coast of Ireland on June 23, 1985, killing all 329 people, many of them Canadians.

CBC NEWS ONLINE

Fung claims swap occurred

KIDNAPPING The Canadian journalist kidnapped near Kabul last month said yesterday that she had been released in exchange for relatives of her chief abductor, who the Afghan authorities had put in jail after she was seized.

CBC reporter Mellissa Fung was freed on Saturday after 28 days in captivity. She said most of the kidnappers had been very young men and were clearly members of a criminal gang rather than the Taliban. Fung said that family members of that gang were released in exchange for her safe return.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper said on Monday that no "political prisoners" had been exchanged for Fung, a choice of words that could exclude the possibility of family members being used in a swap. REUTERS

LeBlanc wants to bridge gap

JEFF HODSON
jeff.hodson@metronews.ca

The Liberal Party of Canada needs to reconnect with average Canadians by talking about the things that matter to them – jobs, infrastructure and education, leadership hopeful Dominic LeBlanc said in Vancouver yesterday.

A bilingual Acadian from New Brunswick, LeBlanc, 40, says he represents a generational and geographical change in the leadership of the Liberal party.

He said he's the party's best bet to reconnect with a broad swath of voters and is expected to formalize his leadership campaign in the coming weeks.

"I wouldn't be running if I didn't think I had a chance to win," said LeBlanc, the son of former Governor General Romeo LeBlanc, who has represented the rural New Brunswick riding of Beauséjour for the past eight years.

Taking on big-name candidates like deputy party leader Michael Ignatieff and former Ontario premier Bob Rae, LeBlanc offers a choice for traditional and new Liberals.

So far he has the backing of Jean Chrétien's and Paul Martin's chiefs of staff, as well as the organizers behind the 2006 leadership bids of MPs Scott Brison and Ken Dryden.

JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

Liberal leadership candidate Dominic LeBlanc at the Hotel Vancouver yesterday.

B.C. brew fixing to bottle bailouts

POLITICS As central bankers try to prop up an ailing global economy with financial bailouts, a tiny B.C. brewery has stepped into the battle with what it bills as a recession-fighting ale.

Howe Sound Brewery began selling Bailout Bitter in Squamish and is awaiting permission to begin selling bottles in Alberta. REUTERS

News in brief

CRIME Canadian prison authorities were forced to release a 450-pound gang member this week because he was too large for his cell, the Journal de Montreal newspaper reported yesterday. Michel Lapointe — known as Big Mike — was arrested in September 2006. The paper said he could not fit on the chair in his prison cell and when he went to bed, his body protruded 15 cm on either side. REUTERS

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American Idol wannabe found dead in apparent suicide
A woman who once tried out for top-rated television show American Idol and appears to have been an obsessed fan of judge Paula Abdul has been found dead of an apparent suicide near the pop star's home. Police said they discovered the body of Paula Goodspeed, 30, in a car near Abdul's Los Angeles home Tuesday night. REUTERS

World

Best bottoms in the world

Brazil's Melanie Nunes Fronckowiak, left, and France's Saiba Bombote, far left, pose after they won the female and male final of the "most beautiful bottom in the world" competition in Paris yesterday. Some 45 finalists from 26 different countries took part in the competition to win a modelling contract and 15,000 euros prize money.

REUTERS

Freeze worse than Ice Age coming?

The planet could face a freeze worse than an Ice Age starting in as little as 10,000 years, giving future societies a headache the opposite of coping with global warming, scientists said yesterday.

The researchers, based in Britain and Canada, said that now-vilified greenhouse gases might help in the future to avert a chill that could smother much of Canada and the United States, Europe and Russia in permanent ice.

They said the study, based on records of tiny marine fossils and the Earth's shifting orbit, did not mean the world should stop fighting warming, stoked by human emissions of heat-trapping gases from burning fossil fuels.

"We're saying: 'don't push the panic button'," said Thomas Crowley, an American scientist at Edinburgh University who shared authorship of the study in the journal Nature with a colleague at Toronto University.

"There's no excuse for saying 'we've got to keep pumping carbon dioxide (CO_2) into the atmosphere'," he told Reuters by telephone, adding that the cooling was projected to start in 10,000 to 100,000 years.

"Geologically it's tomorrow," he said. "But we have a lot of time to argue about the appropriate level of greenhouse gases."

REUTERS

Obama to act quickly on climate change

• President-elect Barack Obama will act against climate change early in his presidency, an environment adviser said yesterday amid doubts that a U.S. carbon-capping program will be in place before 2010.

Italy **Landmark right-to-life case**

REUTERS/HANDOUT

Italy's top court could have the final word on whether a man can remove the feeding tube which has kept his comatose daughter, Eluana Englaro, pictured, alive for 16 years, in a landmark right-to-die case that has split the country.

U.S. changes its bank bailout plan

ECONOMY The U.S. Treasury backed away from using a $700 billion US bailout fund to cleanse bank balance sheets of bad mortgage debt, while Europe reported more gloomy economic news, fanning fears of a worldwide recession.

Secretary Henry Paulson, in the most explicit sign yet that Treasury was abandoning its initial plan for the rescue funds, said he preferred to focus instead on buying stakes in banks to encourage them to increase lending.

REUTERS

News in brief

MEMOIRS President George W. Bush and first lady Laura Bush are expected to write memoirs in the near future.

REUTERS

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Gay TV channel picks up Canadian reality series
MTV Networks' Logo channel has acquired the Canadian gay-themed reality series Chris & John to the Rescue! REUTERS

Officials to grill automaker CEOs on potential bailout

Lawmakers plan to question chief executives of stricken U.S. automakers on their pleas for an industry bailout, while the Bush administration responded coolly yesterday to an aid plan being shaped by Democrats.

"This level of economic devastation far exceeds the ... support that our industry needs to bridge this current period."
GM sales chief Mark LaNeve

Administration officials and some lawmakers expressed concern about industry viability, considering the automakers are churning through cash and have a poor near-term outlook. One Democrat, New York Sen. Charles Schumer, wants assurances Detroit will not seek yet more money in six months. Rep. Barney Frank, chairman of the House Financial Services Committee, said he would hold a hearing Nov. 19 on legislation to extend up to $25 billion to General Motors Corp, Ford Motor Co, and Chrysler LLC.

The domestic auto giants have sought emergency assistance to help them survive a steep and worsening drop in auto sales that they blame on the global credit crisis and slumping economy. GM has said it could run out of cash by early next year. GM U.S. sales chief Mark LaNeve told dealers in a letter that the cost of allowing an industry collapse would be "catastrophic" in job losses, personal income reduction and reduced tax revenues.

"This level of economic devastation far exceeds the $25 billion of government support that our industry needs to bridge this current period," LaNeve said.

GM appealed to dealers and employees to lobby for help. REUTERS

Kurd-Arab tensions rising in Iraq

Kurds, who make up a fifth of Iraq's mainly Arab population, are vying for control of disputed cities, towns and villages along the "green line" that divides Kurdistan from the rest of Iraq.

Kurds make up about a quarter of Mosul's residents and represent a powerful minority in this northern Iraqi city still shaken by car bombs and assassinations. REUTERS

News in brief

SANCTIONS A British resolution would impose new U.N. sanctions on anyone contributing to violence in Somalia.

RIGHTS U.S. Catholic bishops told President-elect Barack Obama he should not change abortion regulations. REUTERS

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Comment & Views

Comment

Tories' portrait of contempt

Home&Abroad

Andrew Cohen

Canada & world insight

If we wonder why so few Canadians voted in the last federal election — a record low turnout — the reason may be how disdainfully their government treats them.

We need not agree with the government's decisions, but we are entitled to know why and how it makes them. Isn't that what democracy is about?

Consider the mysterious decision to cancel the Portrait Gallery of Canada, which was announced stealthily last week. The purpose of a national portrait gallery — which serious countries have — is to educate people, to display the past in pictures, to tell history through the images of those who create a country.

A year ago, the Conservatives announced they would invite bids from developers in nine cities to host the gallery, which was proposed for Ottawa by the Liberals in 2001. It was embarrassing, a country handing a public gallery to private developers and possibly moving it out of the national capital, but that isn't the point here. The point is the contempt it showed for Canadians.

Last Friday, the government announced it would not accept any of the bids. None met its criteria. So it cancelled the gallery entirely. It refused to reveal the bids or how they were judged, saying only that a gallery is now too expensive.

But what was most telling was the process here. James Moore, the new, highly regarded minister of Canadian Heritage, did not call a news conference, which would have been honest.

Instead, Moore's office issued a three-paragraph statement after hours on Friday, when everyone had gone home. His spokeswoman, Deirdra McCracken, said it wasn't ready earlier.

Issuing late news releases is an old trick. The idea is to play down an unpopular decision, ensuring that few people see it and discuss it.

Ask McCracken about this and her stonewalling has a Bambi-like innocence. Why, she even wonders — this is true — did she receive "so few calls from reporters" to speak to Moore, who made himself available to say the gallery would now cost $100 million rather than $44 million, without providing any evidence whatsoever.

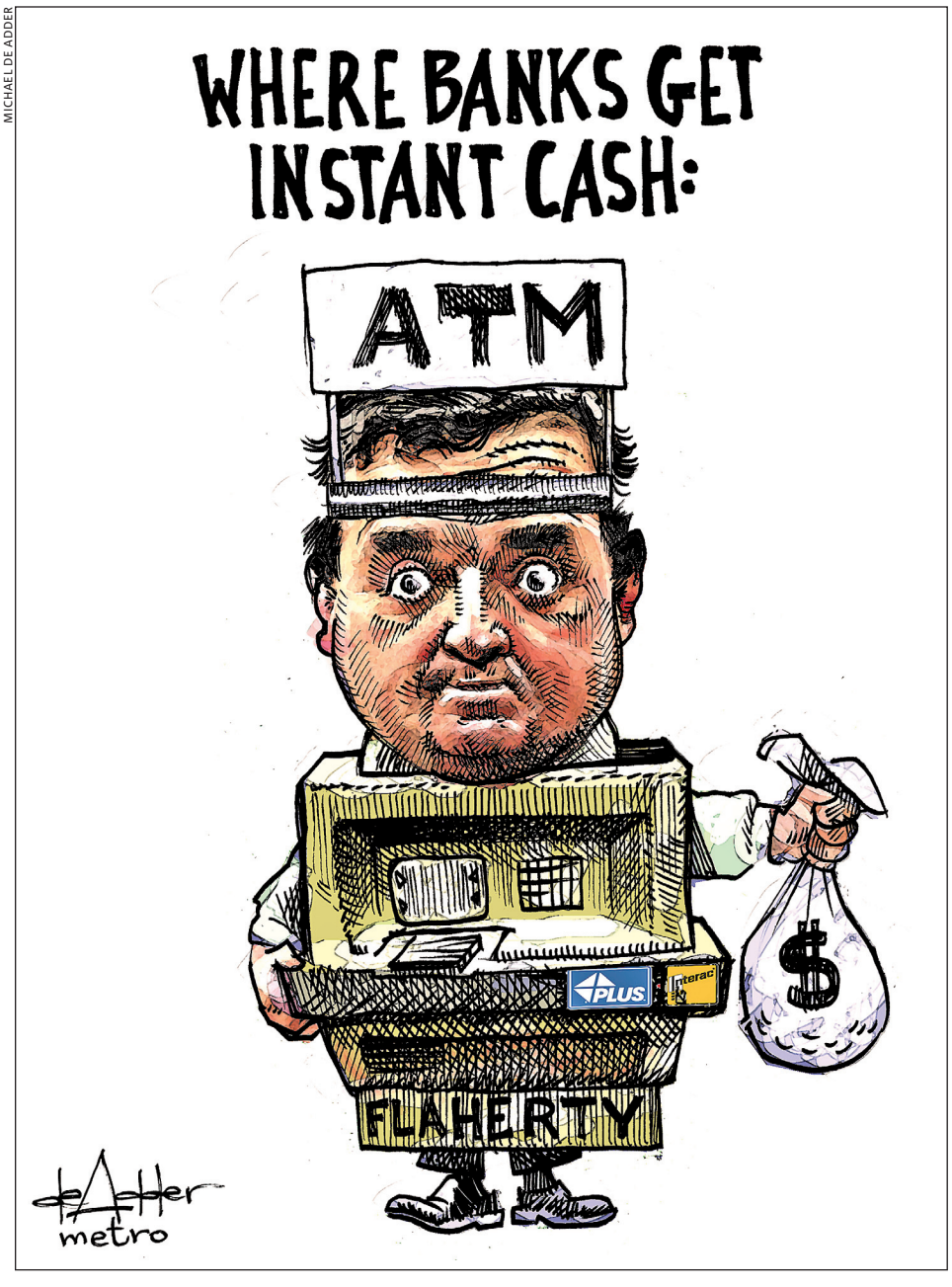
We can only guess that journalists were unaware of the opportunity to spend their Friday night chatting with McCracken, who surely could have delayed the urgent statement until Monday, and had her minister deliver it.

The reason for this little game? Limit debate. Avoid discussing a legitimate national enterprise seven years in the making. Treat voters like children.

Then wonder why so few vote.

Andrew Cohen teaches journalism at Carleton University. He is the author of Extraordinary Canadians: Lester B. Pearson.

MICHAEL DE ADDER



Views

An ode to average children

By KELLY SCHWARTZ

As I sit and listen to my son massacre one of several timeless left-hand-then-right-hand classics on the piano, six words immediately come to mind: "Wow! A prodigy he is not!"

But he is not entirely to blame for either his lack of skill or devotion to this parent-imposed ritual of daily aural abuse. I'm really just passing down another of the several rites of passage my parents did "to" me, and thus anything less than sitting and kicking the bejeepers out of the old upright piano for 30 minutes a day is better than I did at his age.

His lack of attention to excellence is compounded by the unseasonably warm autumn weather, which means he is missing one of several street hockey games that are calling his name much louder than the sweet notes of Cantina Band in Bb screaming awkwardly from his fingers. Both of us finally give in — and give up — and out the door he goes with stick in hand.

While I sit and ponder whether or not street hockey might be an Olympic sport by the time my son is ripe of Olympian age, I find myself struck with a mix of mild disappointment and peaceful resignation that my kids are (gasp!) average. From what I can see so far, my kids are no Sidney Crosby, no Wesley Chu, no Miley Cyrus (whew!), and no Lauren Bay Regula (for women's fastball novices, she was the star pitcher on Canada's 2008 Olympic softball team). And guess what? The more I learn about kids and healthy development, the more you and I should be OK with that.

Kelly Schwartz

You see, our country, its families, and parents in particular need to be content with the fact that millions of our kids are simply average, normal, and just plain plain. Encouraging our kids achieve to their potential is one thing, but demanding that they be the best at everything is simply unrealistic. Our homes are not the set of a Hannah Montana episode (and thankfully sans mulleted fathers like Billy Ray Cyrus!), and real life means it's OK for our kids to just be kids.

As I put the piano books away I can hear the cheers from the street. My boy can go shelf on the shooter tutor like no other! Well, not really, but as far as average Sydneys go, he's pretty good.

Kelly Dean Schwartz (PhD social psychology) is a professor at the University of Calgary where he directs an on-campus clinic serving children and families.

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Game over for illegal internet gambling
The U.S. Treasury Department and the Federal Reserve issued a final rule yesterday to implement the 2006 Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act aimed at stopping offshore companies from profitting from illegal Internet gambling. REUTERS

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EDITOR: FERMIN DESOUZA, FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Business in brief

AIR CANADA
ACE Aviation Holdings Inc, the parent company of Air Canada, said Tuesday it is still looking for ways to wind itself down but it's unlikely to do so by making a cash offer for the public minority stake in the airline. ACE reported a third-quarter loss of $135 million. REUTERS

GOOGLE
Shares of Google Inc yesterday fell below $300 for the first time since late 2005 after analysts lowered their estimates on the Internet search giant, citing a weak advertising market. The shares were down 6.5 per cent at $291.19 in afternoon Nasdaq trade. REUTERS

Canwest slashes 560 jobs

MEDIA Canwest Global Communications Corp. is cutting 560 jobs at its newspapers and television stations to slash costs and to try to cope with an advertising slowdown.

Canwest said yesterday that the job cuts — about five per cent of it's workforce — will be carried out through buyouts, attrition and layoffs.

Canwest's broadcasting operations will see 210 jobs lost, and the newspaper publishing division will trim 350 jobs. REUTERS

$50B bump

Canada buys more mortgages

The Canadian government will buy up $50 billion more in insured mortgages from banks as part of a series of steps announced yesterday to improve the availability of long-term credit.

As U.S. Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson said he was backing away from buying troubled mortgage assets, Canadian officials said the key difference is that Canadian mortgages are not in distress.

Other measures taken by Ottawa included making it cheaper to use government insurance to guarantee bank borrowing, loosening regulations for banks to allow them more sources of funding, and boosting the borrowing authority of the government's Business Development Bank by $1.8 billion.

The Bank of Canada also set up a term loan facility to lend $8 billion to banks in four tranches, using their non-mortgage loans as collateral. REUTERS

Benefits

- Canadian banks, with strong balance sheets and healthy mortgages on their books, are using the government buyback program to fund themselves at rates comparable with, or better than, what banks elsewhere in the world can get, TD Bank President and Chief Executive Ed Clark said yesterday. REUTERS

Hong Kong **Job hunting**

REUTERS/BOBBY YIP

Hundreds of job seekers crowd in front of booths at a job fair inside a shopping mall in Hong Kong yesterday. Job advertisements in Asia's financial centres Singapore and Hong Kong fell in the third quarter as the financial crisis spurred companies to cut costs, recruitment firm Robert Walters said on Oct. 30.

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MLB Network hires former Jay Reynolds

Former major leaguers Al Leiter and Harold Reynolds were hired yesterday as studio analysts for the MLB Network, which launches Jan. 1. Trenni Kusnierek and former Rogers Sportsnet personality Hazel Mae were hired as reporters. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sports

Ruutu suspended

Jarkko Ruutu is the latest NHLer to be disciplined for a dangerous hit. The Ottawa Senators forward received a two-game suspension yesterday after catching Montreal's Maxim Lapierre with an elbow early in the third period of a game on Tuesday night. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Streak ends, Canucks lose shootout

NHL RESULT

Avalanche 2 **Canucks** 1 (SO)

SCOTT RINTOUL
scott.rintoul@metronews.ca

THE SKINNY: Marek Svatos tipped a seesaw battle between hot goaltenders in the Avs' favour with the winning goal in a shootout. Svatos also scored Colorado's only goal in regulation, ending Roberto Luongo's lengthy shutout streak. Taylor Pyatt was the only Canuck to beat Peter Budaj with a penalty shot goal in the second period.

THE STREAK: 242 minutes and 36 seconds. That's the game time between Henrik Zetterberg's goal on November 2nd and Svatos' third period tally last night, as Roberto Luongo shut the door for the equivalent of over four games in setting a new franchise shutout record.

THE SHOOTOUT: Wojtek Wolski hypnotized Luongo with his puck handling before reaching back across the crease to tuck the biscuit in the basket, while Alex Burrows roofed a backhand deke over Budaj on Vancouver's final chance to keep the Canucks in it before Svatos' winner.

THE STYMIED: Daniel Sedin, Henrik Sedin, Steve Bernier, Kyle Wellwood and Mason Raymond will all have nightmares about their respective opportunities to bury a goal in regulation. Same goes for Colorado's David Jones, Tyler Arnason, Paul Stastny and Wolski who were all robbed by Luongo.

REUTERS/ANDY CLARK

Luongo is knocked down after Sami Salo falls into him during second period last night.

THE NEXT GAME: The Toronto Maple Leafs visit GM Place Saturday for the first time since January 10, 2006.

Lions' legacy on line

ToulBox

Scott Rintoul

scott.rintoul@metronews.ca

•At first glance, a berth in the Grey Cup appears to be the biggest thing on the line in Calgary this Saturday for the Lions. Upon closer inspection, there is also a legacy at stake for the current group of players assembled in the den.

Though many believe Dave Dickenson's departure signaled the end of an era in B.C., Dickenson's injuries ushered in a new reality before he'd ever officially parted ways with the Lions.

Once seen as high-flying aerial attack, this talented group has been more properly defined by its imposing defence and brash offensive line.

Players such as Tyrone Williams, Brent Johnson and Otis Floyd have earned the defence a reputation for being as tough as talented, a status echoed on offence by the likes of Jason Clermont and Rob Murphy.

Yet for all of the regular season wins and postseason awards over the past five years, the Lions are acutely aware of their lone Cup victory in 2006. They also understand that a facelift is forthcoming in the offseason, the bulk of it on defence.

• If you act quickly, you can still get your money down on a late November date in the "When will Brian Burke become the GM in Toronto?" office pool. Burke's resignation yesterday in Anaheim is as surprising as Gary Bettman claiming every NHL team is in great shape financially, and Burke's signing in Toronto will fall into the same category.

Love him or hate him, Burke is the perfect fit for the big smoke; he never met a microphone he didn't like and the Leafs enjoy unparalleled coverage from the media.

Unlike Vancouver and Anaheim, Burke has no obligation to turn things around financially in Toronto as the Maple Leafs need wins more than they need money.

Thus, his challenge is the same one Glen Sather has been unable to conquer in New York: find a way to win with Goliath after building a resume with David.

Want to weigh in? send me an email at scott.rintoul@metronews.ca.

Scott Rintoul is a college athlete, sports fan and broadcaster. He can be heard Monday-Friday on the TEAM 1040 from 6-9 a.m.

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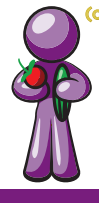
How to keep a full stomach on an empty wallet

When finances get tight, luxuries are the easiest and most obvious things to cut. However, what's not so obvious is how to cut spending on the essentials, such as food. But with the price of what we eat predicted to soar this year, it's well worth looking for ways to cut spending.

This year's increase could translate into hundreds of dollars for many families. The typical family of four spends more than $8,500 a year on food. Sharp increases in fuel and commodity prices take most of the blame, says the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

But there are many things a family can do to cut food costs that involve more planning than sacrifice. "The first one is start paying attention to what you throw away," says Beverly Mills, one of the authors of the cookbook, "Cheap. Fast. Good!" "The most expensive food you buy is the food you don't eat."

(continued online...)



To read more, visit lifestyle.yahoo.ca

Sports in brief

CFL A CFL-high five players have been named to the 2008 CFL Defensive All-Star team. Defensive linemen Cam Wake, Brent Johnson, Aaron Hunt, safety Barron Miles and cornerback Dante Marsh were selected. Wake earns his second straight CFL All-Star nod, leading the league with 23 sacks. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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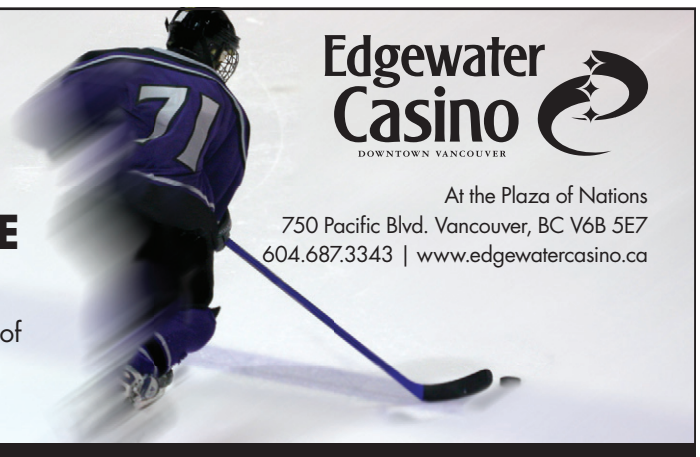

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Ironwood Mall
Lansdowne Mall
Parker Place
Richmond Centre
115 - 12571 Bridgeport Rd.

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Central City Shopping Centre
Guildford Town Centre
201 - 13734 104th Ave.
135 - 12477 88th Ave.
2404 King George Hwy.
1675 128th St.
108 - 7380 King George Hwy.
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10310A 152nd St.

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North/South

White Rock
Semiahmoo Shopping Centre
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Northills Centre (Kamloops)
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Pine Centre (Prince George)
Piccadilly Mall (Salmon Arm)
Village Green Mall (Vernon)

Whistler
7009 Nesters Rd.

Squamish
38116 2nd Ave.

Metro Homes

Virtual scrapbook

Instead of accumulating a bulky, disorganized file of your favourite home decor stories, consider switching to My Deco File, *mydecofile.dominomag.com*, a new online feature from Domino magazine that lets you assemble a virtual collection of photos that inspire you. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Seasonal markets make most of shopping

UrbanDweller

Carlyn Yandle
carlyn.yandle@metronews.ca

The market is getting a very — very — bad name these days. The word conjures up images of traders pulling out their last remaining hairs while they scan all the down arrows crawling across the digital signs.

Like most people, I'm emotionally detached from all the hysteria, but remain fully engaged in the more tangible market, the one that trades in foodstuff or goods. There's no dealing in futures here, but your local market does ensure a future economy. The humble beginning of a market is the first sign of hope after war or natural disaster strikes. Given a chance, it blooms into a vibrant hub of activity and healthy livelihoods.

Check out the sweet Buddha Bowls created by White Rock's Elan Falvai that made Oprah Magazine's O-list, at the One of A Kind Show at B.C. Place Nov. 20-23.

Whether it's a Sunday farmers' market, an early-morning fish market, junky flea market, long-running antiques market, or seasonal crafts market, shopping at a market anywhere in the world is a personal choice in more ways than one. It's a chance to meet the people who make/catch/find the goods. You get a pretty good idea about where your money is going.

But market-shopping is also a political act. By choosing to shop at the street level you are not supporting unfair working conditions, environmentally irresponsible manufacturing processes or long-haul shipping. This kind of shopping does not make a very few very rich off of others' poorly-paid labour.

The market is the hearth of any community, and it's already heating up at the beginning of this giving season. I view the seasonal markets as a chance to pick up unique items for all the birthdays, weddings, house-warmings, baby showers coming up next year, as well as the usual household necessities like dishes and linens.

- The major event is the Circle Craft Christmas Market, now in full swing under the sails at the Vancouver Convention and Exhibition Centre until Sunday (adults $12, $2 discount if you download coupon at circlecraft.net).
- The very funky Portobello West Fashion and Design Market, coming up Nov. 30 — followed up by a Christmas fair on Dec. 13 and 14 — hosts at Rocky Mountaineer Station, just west of Home Depot. ($2 gets you in, noon to 6 p.m.)
- Check out the new kid in town, the One of A Kind Show at B.C. Place Nov. 20-23, boasting works by more than 150 artisans that are new or not part of other markets this season. Tickets are $10, or $8 at oneofakindvancouver.com

Carlyn Yandle is a Vancouver journalist with her own room-planning business, Home Reworks, homereworks.com.

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Try this James Bond Martini recipe from Ian Fleming's first James Bond novel, Casino Royale: 3 oz gin; 1 oz vodka; 1/2 oz Lillet® Blanc wine. Pour gin, vodka and Lillet blanc into a cocktail shaker half-filled with cracked ice. Shake well, and strain into a chilled glass. Garnish with a twist of lemon. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Food

Pick up some great cocktail recipes such as Chocolate Martini, Hot Chocolate for Consenting Adults and Limoncello at Foodtv.ca.

Metro News Services

EDITOR: NINA DRAGICEVIC, NINA.DRAGICEVIC@METRONEWS.CA

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The tip of Bond's tongue

À la carte

Barb Holland
Metro Food Writer

In the spirit of Bond mania leading up to the release of Quantum of Solace, let's look at an arena in which this sophisticated and suave agent would feel right at home — the cocktail party. Beautiful and bejewelled women, men in tuxedos and the mysterious allure of strangers.

"Every once in awhile you take a little bite of this and a little sip of that, and it hits just the right note," says Canadian wine educator Shari Darling, who calls this the "Moan Factor."

Darling is the author of a new cookbook, Orgasmic Appetizers and Matching Wines (Whitecap Books), a book that would certainly appeal to James Bond, who's made many a woman moan. These treats would also be a killer for a pre-movie, entertaining night for guests.

Canadian wine educator Shari Darling recommends a brut sparkling wine with some lemon flavour for these Virgin Cherries Stuffed with Goat Cheese.

Virgin Cherries Stuffed with Goat Cheese

Darling recommends a brut sparkling wine with some lemon flavour for this recipe from her book. If you can find a small bottle of extra virgin olive oil infused with white truffles, it makes for a lovely drizzling oil for this easy and classy hors d'oeuvre. Makes 24.

INGREDIENTS:

- 24 large cherry tomatoes
- 4 oz (125 g) fresh goat cheese (chevre)
- Salt and pepper
- 24 tiny fresh basil or oregano leaves
- White truffle oil or extra virgin olive oil

METHOD:

Wash and dry tomatoes, cut a small slice off bottom of each tomato to sit flat (be careful not to break through tomato). Slice a thin portion from top of each tomato. Using a melon baler, scoop out the flesh, being careful not to break the skin.

To make the filling, combine goat cheese, salt and pepper to taste until smooth. Fill each tomato with 1 tsp (5 mL) mixture. Garnish each with basil or oregano leaves. Drizzle each with a little olive oil. Cover and chill.

Chicken and Mango in Crisp Wonton Cups

Both the cups and the filling can be made ahead. Assemble this Asian-flavoured appetizer just before serving. Makes 32.

INGREDIENTS:

- 32 wonton wrappers (1-400 g package)
- 1 lb (500 g) boneless, skinless chicken breasts
- 1 ripe mango, finely diced
- 1/2 red pepper, finely diced
- 2 green onions, finely diced
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) minced fresh ginger
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) each hoisin sauce and chili garlic sauce
- 1 tsp (5 mL) soy sauce
- Salt and pepper
- Cilantro leaves

METHOD:

Preheat oven to 350°F (180°C). Push a wonton wrapper into each cup of a muffin pan and bake 5 to 7 minutes or until golden and crisp. Remove cups to a wire rack to cool.

Continue with remaining wrappers, cool then store in an airtight container for up to 2 days.

Grill, bake or broil chicken breasts until cooked. Cool then dice into small cubes.

Combine chicken, mango, red pepper, green onion, ginger and garlic. Stir in hoisin, chili garlic and soy sauces.

Season to taste with salt and pepper. Filling can be made up to one day ahead, covered and refrigerated.

To serve, warm filling in microwave briefly to room temperature and spoon into cups just before serving. Garnish with cilantro leaves.

Barb Holland is a professional home economist and food writer who believes in shopping locally and in season.

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Target in new fashion push
Target Corp. is launching a new fashion program aimed at collaborating with established designers, and the discount retailer will kick off the initiative in March with an apparel line by Alexander McQueen. REUTERS

Style

A convenient touch of Happy

Rushing from the office to a party and in need of a quick touch up scent? Try Clinique's Happy-To-Go set, which includes three portable fragranced pencils (4.8 g) that can be used to glide onto the wrist or neck. Encompassing two main notes, citrus and floral, the pencils come in three scents: Wealth of Flowers, Hint of Citrus and Clinique Happy. The set retails for $37 and comes with a convenient pencil sharpener. Available in limited edition at Clinique counters across Canada. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: STEPHANIE BOMBA, STEPHANIE.BOMBA@METRONEWS.CA

Holiday hot: 7 pro makeup tips

JANINE FALCON
for Metro Canada

In the upcoming whirlwind of festive engagements, you need a variety of beauty options. Paul Venoit, celebrity makeup artist and CoverGirl makeup pro, and Joli Baker, president of Pür Minerals, share their party-pretty advice to take you through the season:

1) Great-looking skin is where everything starts. "Don't overdo it, though," says Venoit, who recently appeared on the Rachel Ray show to help transform a viewer from everyday blah to Nicole Richie hot. "Let your skin show through. Apply a little concealer and foundation and, for extra holiday glam, use a large natural bristle powder brush to set with light mineral powder."

2) "My favourite holiday party looks always involve a bit of glimmer," says Baker. "Gold or silver on the eyes, a beautiful shimmer on the lips... and don't forget the body." Baker likes a dusting of glow powder on arms, back, legs and décolleté. "It's absolutely sexy."

3) "Highlight the tops of the cheekbones, the brow bones, the inner corners of the eyes and the bow of your lips," says Venoit. "Reflect that evening light!"

4) Baker's smokey eye tip is ultra-quick; keep it in mind when you have to zoom from work to drinks, dinner or the office party. "Use an eyeliner brush to smudge black or navy shadow over your existing liner," she advises.

Go for Nicole Richie glam with bold eyes and a gold gloss.

GETTY IMAGES

LEFT: Estée Lauder Limited Edition Shimmering Jewel Powder, $37.

LEFT: Pür Minerals Holiday Specialty Powder Palette, $39.50.

LEFT: Pür Minerals Holiday Eye Palette, $25

5) Give dark smokey eye makeup a twist with an unexpected colour hit. "Line inner rims with an eye liner shade that pops — turquoise, teal, violet or green," suggests Venoit. Or go for coloured shadow and line rims with black.

LEFT: YSL Rouge Volupté lipstick in Red Taboo, $38.

6) Winged liner is another hot look. Venoit recommends using black liquid liner pen, then adding intensity with a wet angle brush and black eye shadow. "Use short strokes to line across the base of the upper lashes, and exaggerate a bit at the end with a little flick up at the outer corner of your eyes," he says.

RIGHT: CoverGirl LineExact Liquid Liner Pen, $6.99.

7) Support bold eyes with rosy nude or gold gloss for subtle sexiness on your lips. If you're rocking gold or silver eye makeup, ramp up the focus on your lips with rich, red gloss or a sophisticated deep red or berry lipstick.

Last, "Don't be afraid to add more drama than you would use during the day," says Baker. Venoit is of the same mind. "This is the time to play," he says. "Bring out your inner Diva, dahling!"

BELOW: CoverGirl TRUblend Naturally Luminous Loose Powder, $13.99.

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Add interest and glamour to any holiday outfit with big accessories like this oversized flower pin from Le Chateau, right, $29.95, or a classic patent clutch, left, Aldo, $30.

Glam it up - vintage style

Experts weigh in on different looks for various settings

EVA LAM
for Metro Canada

Glitter and shimmer are still hot for the holidays, but vintage glam is the trend to look out for this winter.

We asked four experts — Karen Richter, showroom manager for H&M Canada; Gemma Capone, fashion stylist for Judy, Inc.; Dylan Sit, creative director for Civello Salons; and Caitlin Callahan, senior artist for MAC Cosmetics — for tips on looking stylishly festive in every setting.

Office party

An easy way to dress for a workplace party is to wear a fun, dressy blouse under your typical suit. "This way," says Richter, "you will look appropriate at work, then in the evening simply remove the blazer, add some fun accessories and you're set." Also, swap your workaday bag for a dressy clutch.

For hair, keep it polished and professional with a sleek and chic look. Then, bump up your makeup with a few quick fixes. "You don't have to completely change up your whole face," says Callahan. "A real punchy lip gloss and a false eyelash on top can do incredible things."

House party

"House parties are usually a little more casual, so you never want appear to be overdressed," says Richter. Woman can go for a simple dress, while a dress shirt, cardigan and jeans would be appropriate for men. For Capone, it's all about the ruffles. She suggests a cream- or jewel-toned ruffled blouse with a skinny pant and a sexy boot or shoe.

For hair, Sit suggests a soft loose look, achieved with finger waves, finished with lightweight hairspray for flexible, lasting hold. "This modern version of the iconic '40s style is very stylish this year," she says. Keep makeup casual with a frosty eye shadow. Mineral foundation adds a subtle shimmer.

LEFT: Try a punchy lipgloss this holiday season, like MAC's Dazzleglass in Love Alert, $21.

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Petal Tiers
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Shop: Club Monaco
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clubmonaco.com

Drop Waist Tiers
Designer: Grace Sun
Shop: Violet
Address: 3012 Granville St.
violetboutique.ca

tiered skirts

The look this holiday season is all about the tiered skirt — a series of uniform or staggered layered fabric resembling petals on a flower. What's more, tiered skirts are going mini and they look as flattering as ever. Short skirts give you longer legs, and when paired with the right stockings look chic and stylish. So keep an eye out on tiered dresses and tanks as the trend is here to stay.

accessory
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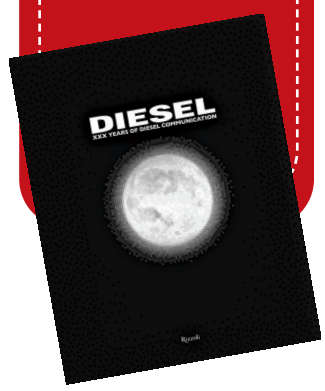

Aviator-esque
Designer: Bedo
Shop: Bedo
Address: Various Locations
bedo.ca

Ruffles
Designer: Madison Marcus
Shop: Hills
Address: 2125 West 41st St.
hillsofkerrisdale.com

Hoody
Designer: Soïa & Kyo
Shop: Plenty
Address: Various Locations
getplenty.com

leather jackets

It's the perfect time of year to wear leather and buy leather as it is likely on sale and stocked up in stores right now. Dress up an outfit with the Madison Marcus crop jacket or dress down an outfit with the Soïa & Kyo motorcycle jacket that also has a detachable hood. And remember if you hit the sales section you won't feel as guilty.

tip: Do not wrap leather in plastic or other nonporous materials because leather needs to breathe. If you must store a leather jacket in a plastic garment bag, leave it slightly open for proper ventilation. (*wisegeek.com*)

Style File

Kim Elbo
kim.elbo@metronews.ca

ask kim

My go-to mascara is always Great Lash by Maybelline but now I'm looking for something new, have any suggestions?

This December, Lancôme will be coming out with a new oscillating brush that will help with fully coating your lashes ($29). If you're looking for less expensive, try the Double Extension beauty tubes by L'Oreal for $15. Or try it all with the Lash Stash by Sephora, a 10-piece mascara kit that includes my favourite: Kiss Me mascara.

E-mail your style questions to *kim.elbo@metronews.ca.*

Vancouver's Kim Elbo has a passion for fashion. Here she shares the latest style tips.

GlobalStyle

Kenya Hunt
Exclusively at *metronews.ca/style*

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Crowe may replace Ledger in the Dirt
Actor Russell Crowe is in talks to replace late actor Heath Ledger in director Phillip Noyce's Dirt Music. Noyce's film is an adaptation of the Tim Winton novel about a couple in a loveless relationship. **IMDB.COM**

Entertainment

Rock respect

Soul diva Aretha Franklin has been named the greatest singer of the rock era in a Rolling Stone magazine poll.

BBC NEWS ONLINE

EDITOR: TINA COSTANZA, TINA.COSTANZA@METRONEWS.CA

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Connery tops best James Bond survey

JIM REYNO
Metro Canada

metro life panel

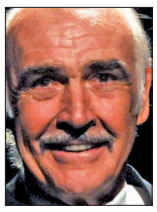
When it comes to Bond, it's Sean. Sean Connery is the overwhelming favourite big-screen James Bond, according to Metro readers.

A recent Metro Life Panel survey found 45 per cent of worldwide respondents pick the bald Scot as best Bond. Slick Pierce Brosnan is a distant second at 24 per cent. Stoic Roger Moore has 18 per cent support, followed by the abdominal-workout obsessed Daniel Craig, the current Bond. There's also two guys on the poll named Timothy Dalton (two per cent) and George Lazenby (one per cent).

In terms of sex, Connery is the choice of both of them — 48 per cent of men, 43 per cent of women. Moore is No. 2 for guys (21 per cent), while women prefer Brosnan (29 per cent).

When you break the data down by country, nobody feels more passionately about anything than the Italians feel about Connery. He dominates the field, getting 62 per cent of the vote in Italy. No other Bond tops 15 per cent.

In Canada, we like the current Bond more than anyone else. Sixteen per cent of Canadian Metro readers take Craig. His next highest approval rating is in Sweden (14 per cent).



Connery

Overall, 42 per cent of Canadians pick Connery as top Bond, followed by Brosnan (26 per cent), Craig (16) and Moore (14).

As for the Bond bad guys, Goldfinger (21 per cent) is the worldwide winner. In Canada, we prefer the steely mouthed, multi-film villain Jaws (23).

We're also the biggest Bond fans. Canada tops all 10 countries surveyed with 84 per cent of respondents who like Bond movies. Portugal (82 per cent) is next, followed by Denmark (76), Sweden (74), the U.S. (74), Hungary (73), Spain (72), the Netherlands (71), France (70), and Italy (68).

There were 5,598 respondents to the October survey.

Skipping a generation

Serena Ryder

Album: Is It OK
Label: EMI
Rating: ●●●●

ON HER LAST CD, If Your Memory Serves You Well, this 24-year-old Peterborough native proved her three-octave voice can blow the socks off just about every other young singer in the country. She took some undeserved flack, though, for recording an album of Canadian covers. On her third album, Is It OK, Ryder shows she can write with the same kind of muscle that drives her voice, moving easily from bluesy folk to passionate power rock. Unfortunately, Ryder's rootsy vocal stylings will likely appeal more to her parents' generation than her own.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

EMI MUSIC

On her third album, Is It OK, Serena Ryder shows she can write with the same kind of muscle that drives her three-octave voice.

Quantum of Solace

Album: Film Score
Label: J/Sony BMG
Rating: ●●●●

I HAVEN'T SEEN the new James Bond film, but after listening to David Arnold's score, I don't have to. Intense blasts of violins and bass on The Palio signal a hurried chase, while slow, sweeping builds on Greene & Camille means a cautious Bond is peering around a corner. While the music is predictable, it still sounds fresh, even though it's rooted in '60s spy music. It's not all swelling sounds though, the disc also includes Alicia Keys and Jack White's inventive fuzzy-R&B-meets-classic 007 collaboration. Don't be surprised if you start visualizing your own Bond film when this disc is on.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada

T-Pain

Album: Thr33 Ringz
Label: Jive/Sony BMG
Rating: ●●●

IT TOOK A while for T-Pain to be taken seriously in the urban circles, but now, three years after his debut, he's one of the most sought after rap/R&B practitioners around. On his latest, the dreadlocked Floridian does something many rappers avoid — singing about heartbreak and love. Musically, he tones things down a bit, but his famous auto-tune is in force on nearly every song.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada

MusicReviews

music@metronews.ca

Seal

Album: Soul
Label: Warner
Rating: ●●●½

LAST NIGHT MY 10-year-old son asked me to explain the meaning of R&B. A debate had been raging in the school yard. It's understandable, considering all the junk that's sold as R&B. Luckily, Seal's superb new CD of old school covers had arrived. "This is R&B," I said. He liked the James Brown and Curtis Mayfield tracks. He danced to Knock On Wood and sensed deeper meaning in the Sam Cooke classic, A Change Is Gonna Come. By the end he was almost convinced Seal has a better voice than Kanye. There is hope for the future.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

Read our reviews of new music from Tracy Chapman and David Archuleta at metronews.ca/music

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Obama girls not headed for Hannah Montana
U.S. President-elect Barack Obama's two young daughters haven't been asked to appear on Disney's Hannah Montana, a source within the Obama camp tells Usmagazine.com. **USMAGAZINE.COM**

Fact, fiction in JCVD

Film puts Van Damme back on the map

CHRIS ALEXANDER
For Metro Canada

From the first time fans saw him administer a series of crushing roundhouse kicks to Bolo Yeung's solar plexus in 1988's Bloodsport, Jean Claude Van Damme — The Muscles from Brussels — has been a cinematic martial arts icon.

Yet, in the past decade, problems with drugs and career missteps threatened to send him into B-level action hero obscurity for good.

Just when Van Damme thought his legacy would end in tears, French filmmaker Mabrouk El Mechri unleashes JCVD, a critically lauded, meta-fictional movie that sees Van Damme playing himself: An aging, tired, beaten down action hero whose star has sunk and who inexplicably finds himself at the centre of a Dog Day Afternoon-esque bank heist/hostage situation.

Funny, stylish and raw, the film ultimately proves something many of Van Damme's naysayers have long refused to accept: The man can act.

"I can't really do any more movies like I used to do," says the 48-year-old Van Damme, who's still in shockingly good physical shape. "All that jumping from balconies and whatnot. With JCVD, I'm trying to give a real, emotionally honest performance and I think that that reality, that truth, makes the movie's action scenes resonate more."

While JCVD — it opens tomorrow in Toronto and Vancouver — does indeed function as an action film (albeit a very strange, satiric one), Van Damme is often required to use his head, perhaps even more so than his fists and feet, to unravel the mess that surrounds him. And as the narrative progresses, the fine line between fact and fiction becomes blurred and disorienting.

"The broken guy you see in JCVD is me," says Van Damme. "But, then again, the focused guy you see in Bloodsport is also me. The film plays with that duality."

Van Damme stares directly into the camera at one point in JCVD, addressing the audience and breaking down the fourth wall. It is unleashed in a single take, with a seemingly improvised monologue that shows a man coming to terms with the myriad of mistakes he's made in life.

"When I had all of those problems, I let a lot of people down," he admits. "But, I'm back and I believe that once you've been through the worst, if you manage to get back up, it's a lot easier to stay back up."

Jean Claude Van Damme stars in meta-fictional film JCVD, opening tomorrow in Vancouver.

Schirripa, Turturro rehash The Sopranos series finale

RICK MCGINNIS
Metro Canada

Almost a year and a half after it aired, people are still talking about the controversial "cut to black" ending of HBO's The Sopranos, and the release this week of the massive, definitive complete DVD box set of the show will stir things up again.

Sitting in a Toronto hotel room entertaining a string of press to publicize the box set, cast members Steve Schirripa and Aida Turturro are as unrepentant as creator David Chase that it was the right way to go.

At the heart of it all, I suggest, I think people weren't as angry about Chase's audacity as much as the simple fact that it was over. The pair take this idea and toss it back and forth between them.

"I think you're right," says Turturro. "They were unconsciously mad that it was over. But then there's the people who wanted closure. There's people who are like 'Did this happen? Did this happen? Tell me what happened!'"

"It's like what happens with Law & Order, which is a great show," adds Schirripa. "I'm not knocking L&O — we've all done them, terrific show. But you know that whatever happens in L&O, there's a guy dead at the beginning, there's a girl in the East River, by the end of the show it's going to be wrapped up in a nice bow. It's all gonna be resolved. Perry Mason years ago…"

"I loved Perry Mason."

"This is not how David Chase works," Schirripa says.

"And that's how life is," Turturro interject. "Life doesn't just give you an answer. It's like whatever happened to that guy? Is the Russian coming back?"

Steve Schirripa, Aida Turturro

"...the Russian, the Russian..."

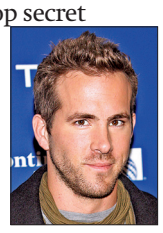
"I know, he's gone..."

"'Are they gonna kill the rapist that raped Melfi?' What kind of sense does that make? She's a legitimate psychiatrist — is she suddenly gonna start having people whacked?"

"Yeah, right."

2nd secret wedding for Scarlet, Ryan

RELATIONSHIPS Newlyweds Scarlett Johansson and Ryan Reynolds are planning a top secret second wedding in the U.S., according to reports. The couple shocked Hollywood by marrying in a wilderness resort in Vancouver in September, imdb.com reports. Many friends and family members couldn't attend - so they are staging another ceremony in the coming months for 150 guests. "Scarlett wants something simple and classic. They've agreed on 150 guests," a source tells Ok! Magazine.



Ryan Reynolds

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Swinton to head Berlinale jury

FILM FESTIVAL Britain's Tilda Swinton, who won the Academy Award for best supporting actress this year, will be the jury president of the 2009 Berlin Film Festival, organizers said yesterday. Swinton, who won the Oscar for her performance as a shifty lawyer in the thriller Michael Clayton, also founded, co-curated and produced a film festival this year in Nairn, Scotland, where she lives. Swinton, 48, has forged a successful career by tackling unconventional roles. The 59th Berlinale runs from Feb. 5-15, 2009.

REUTERS

Publishers courting Palin, First Lady for memoirs

BOOKS Republicans may have been voted out of power, but they could dominate U.S. political bookshelves with memoirs by President George W. Bush and first lady Laura Bush among the possible coming attractions.

Publishers would eagerly offer Laura Bush seven figures for her memoirs, publishing experts say, raising the question of whether she could fetch more than her husband.

Laura Bush, a former librarian, has expressed interest in writing a book and has the advantage of being popular.

Agent Gary Morris of the David Black Literary Agency said intrigue about Laura Bush is linked to the success of Curtis Sittenfeld's American Wife, a fictionalization of her life.

Yet both Bushes could be outdone by Sarah Palin, the feisty governor of Alaska and unsuccessful Republican vice presidential candidate in last week's election.

"Rightly or wrongly, the public seems to have taken a fancy to Palin and I would imagine she'd get more than either of them at this silly moment in our lives," said John Baker, former editorial director at Publishers Weekly, now an agent.

Agents and publishers say both Bushes and Palin would likely command multimillion-dollar advances but not as much as former President Bill Clinton, who received a $15 million advance, believed to be a record for a nonfiction work.

REUTERS

Moore 'sad' at violence in Bond films

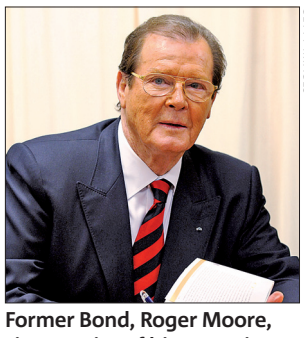
FILMS Movie audiences nowadays expect scenes of graphic violence in James Bond movies, unlike when Roger Moore played the super spy with a tongue-in-cheek humor, the actor believes.

"I am happy to have done it, but I'm sad that it has turned so violent," Moore said before Quantum of Solace, starring Daniel Craig as a darker Agent 007, opens in North America tomorrow.

"That's keeping up with the times, it's what cinema-goers seem to want and it's proved by the box-office figures," Moore told Reuters in an interview about his memoir, My Word is My Bond.

The new Bond film opened in London on Oct. 31, breaking the British weekend box-office record with a gross of $25 million. It has taken in more than $106 million worldwide so far.

Moore, 81, recalled being appalled at the violence in A View to a Kill, the 1985 movie which was the last of the seven in which he played Bond. "That wasn't Bond," he said.



GETTY IMAGES

Former Bond, Roger Moore, signs copies of his memoir, My Word is Bond.

While making The Man With the Golden Gun, director Guy Hamilton wanted Bond to be tougher and had him threaten to break Maud Adams' character's arm to get information, Moore writes. "That sort of characterization didn't sit well with me, but Guy was keen to make my Bond a little more ruthless.

"I suggested my Bond would have charmed the information out of her by bedding her first. My Bond was a lover and a giggler, but I went along with Guy," the British actor wrote.

Moore has not yet seen Quantum of Solace, but based on Craig's first Bond film, Casino Royale, believes it will be a success in North America too. **REUTERS**

30ROCK

Guest Starring
Jennifer Aniston

9:30 Tonight

Cityty

ROGERS™

Kardashian guest on CBS sitcom
Reality star Kim Kardashian has taped a guest spot on How I Met Your Mother. **PEOPLE.COM**

Metro Global Photo Challenge 2008

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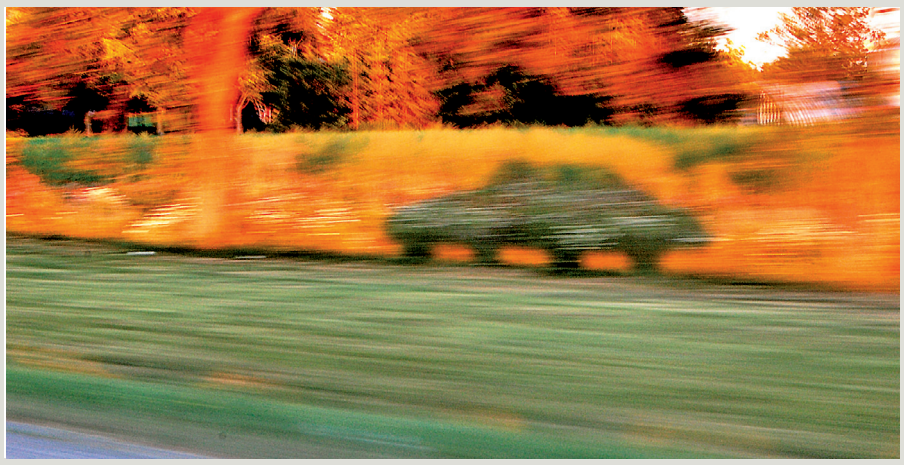
"All the colours of an immaculate vibrant sunset, sweet corn fields and the silhouette of my Jetta cruising a country road."
Mauricio Tabares, Toronto

Invisible Car



"Graffiti represents perfectly today's urban life in which people can express their feelings and emotions. This photo represents the contrast between the city and the nature."
Audrey Des Roberts, Toronto

On The Road

Metro's Global Photo Challenge has drawn 3,890 entries from across Canada, and 55,389 international entries. View the Top 10 photos and vote for your favourite shot online at **metronews.ca/photochallenge** until Nov. 23.

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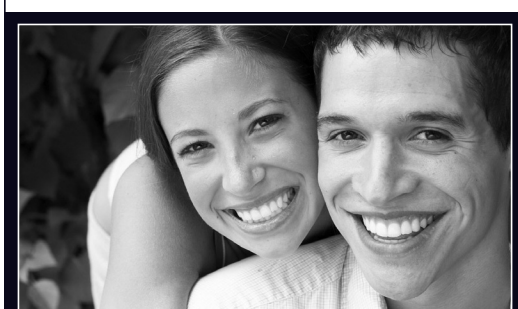

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Metcalfe takes a tumble
Actor Jesse Metcalfe was briefly hospitalized after falling from a second-story balcony in Monaco on Sunday, but suffered "no long term damage," according to his rep. **PEOPLE.COM**

Guns N' Roses accused poster to plead guilty

MUSIC A man accused of illegally posting songs on the Internet from an unreleased album by the rock band Guns N' Roses has agreed to plead guilty, a federal prosecutor said Tuesday.

Kevin Cogill will enter his guilty plea to one federal count of copyright infringement at a hearing on Dec. 8, said Craig Missakian, assistant U.S. attorney.

The FBI said Cogill posted nine tracks from the highly anticipated Guns N' Roses album Chinese Democracy on a Web site called Antiquiet. The album will be released on Nov. 23. They did not disclose how Cogill, who has no known direct connection to the band, obtained the songs.

Jackson's Neverland Ranch sold

PROPERTY Michael Jackson's Neverland Ranch has been sold to an investment firm whose bosses will rename the property in a joint venture with the pop star, according to new reports, imdb.com reports.

Jackson prevented a foreclosure sale of the California estate when New York-based private equity group Colony Capital agreed to take over his $24.5-million US debt on the property in May.

According to Santa Barbara records, the title to Neverland was transferred on Monday to a company called Sycamore Valley Ranch Company LLC.

REUTERS

In brief

TELEVISION With Brooke Smith's recent departure from the show, two newbies are prepping for Grey's Anatomy. Melissa George plays Sadie, one of Meredith's former college friends, while Mary McDonnell plays Dr. Dixon, a heart surgeon with Asperger's syndrome. Kevin McKidd joins the show as a regular, ABC reveals. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

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Some TV stars create, others destroy

IntelleVision

Rick McGinnis
rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

BUT ISN'T THAT THE POINT? Tony Sirico's Paulie Walnuts was one of the best characters on HBO's The Sopranos — twitchy and volatile, constantly on the verge of a psychotic episode, he was a soothing reminder that, with guys like this around, the long term viability of the Mafia would always be in doubt.

Not content with a character actor's career, Sirico has apparently put his name on a new cologne — Paolo Per Uomo — that's gotten a fairly scathing review from the New York Post, who took it out to Times Square to test out on New Yorkers.

"It reminds me of a hard night," said one young woman. "It's way too much. If you put it on, you have to air yourself out," said another.

"At first whiff, we were sipping wine with Tony and Big Pussy at the Bada Bing," wrote the Post's Raahkee Mirchandani, obviously warming to the task.

"A few more whiffs —- and we sensed top notes of cigar ash and polyester jumpsuits with hints of stripper sweat and a cream-filled cannoli."

Paolo Per Uomo was unveiled at the Perfumers Choice Awards in Manhattan, and will be joined by an aftershave and deodorant, according to Sirico, though there's no news about whether they'll also smell "like every lasagna-loving, spaghetti-slurping mob-boss wannabe or cheap imitation consigliere," as per the Post's description.

Evocative words, no doubt, but you have to wonder who'd buy the stuff if it didn't.

LIKE JACKASS FOR STUPID PEOPLE...DID I JUST SAY THAT? Human Wrecking Balls is a new show on the G4 network in the U.S., where a pair of brothers demonstrates how to tear things apart using just their bare hands, shoulders and bodies, accompanied by the odd guest star, like the Danzig bassist who helps them wreck a hotel room.

"An office, an '80s muscle car and a small airplane" are all the victims of the Pumphrey brothers' unique skill set, according to a USA Today story, while experts like a structural engineer offer the educational component, describing "the strength of the items being destroyed and the force needed to pulverize them."

This and a few cases of Red Bull could have a ripple effect on apartment leases and struggling relationships all over the country, if I know anything about young men with too much time on their hands.

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera.

GETTY IMAGES

The Soprano's Tony Sirico has attached his name to a new cologne called Paolo Per Uomo.

VA	Vu	SC	C		7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 11/13/08	251	308	3	CBC	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	The Nature of Things (N)		Doc Zone (N) (CC)		CBC News: The National (N)		(:05) The Hour
	255	358	6	JOY	E! News	The Insider	Name Is Earl	Kath & Kim	How I Married My High School Crush (2007) Katee Sackhoff.				News (N)
	254	-	8	M	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	News (In Mandarin N)		News (In Cantonese N)		News (In Punjabi N)		Metropia
	250	321	9	CTV	etalk (CC)	Dance	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		Grey's Anatomy (N) (CC)		ER "Heal Thyself" (N) (CC)		News (N)
	-	-	10	OMNI	Scrubs (CC)	According-Jim	Smallville "Abyss" (N) (CC)		Supernatural (N) (CC)		The Daily	Diya (CC)	New Day
	252	336	11	GTV	Entertainment	ET Canada	Survivor: Gabon (N) (CC)		The Office (N)	Billable Hours	(:01) Life on Mars (N) (CC)		News (N)
	256	389	12	VI	Instant Star	TMZ (N) (CC)	Medium "Head Games" (CC)		America's Next Top Model		(:01) Eleventh Hour "Frozen"		News (CC)
	253	359	13	CITY	Law & Order: SVU		Ugly Betty "Tornado Girl" (N)		30 Rock	30 Rock (N)	Stylista "Shop It Like It's Hot"		Realty TV
	-	-	14	CW	Deal-No Deal	Deal-No Deal	Smallville "Abyss" (N) (CC)		Supernatural (N) (CC)		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier (CC)
	289	381	15	CBS	Entertainment	The Insider	Survivor: Gabon (N) (CC)		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		(:01) Eleventh Hour "Frozen"		News (N)
	287	379	16	NBC	Evening Mag.	Inside Edition	Name Is Earl	Kath & Kim	The Office (N)	(:31) 30 Rock	ER "Heal Thyself" (N) (CC)		News (N)
	602	568	19	W	Will & Grace	Friends (CC)	Divine Design	House	Confidential	House	Divine Design	Real Est	Love It-List It
	288	380	21	ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Ugly Betty "Tornado Girl" (N)		Grey's Anatomy (N) (CC)		(:01) Life on Mars (N) (CC)		News (N)
	-	-	23	KVOS	M*A*S*H	Seinfeld	Proximity ★ (2000, Suspense) James Coburn, Rob Lowe.				King	Still Standing	Scrubs (CC)
	291	383	27	PBS	Baseball Football and unions change baseball in the '60s.				Baseball "Home" Game six of the 1975 World Series. (CC) (DVS)				
	290	382	28	FOX	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Kitchen Nightmares (N) (CC)		Kitchen Nightmares (N) (CC)		News (N) (CC)		Family Guy
	-	364	43	PBS	Spain ... On the Road Again		Red Green	Summer Wine	Tavis Smiley	Charlie Rose (N) (CC)		This Old Hse.	Hometime
	296	654	64	SBK	Frasier (CC)	Frasier (CC)	Punk'd (CC)	Patriots 5th Quarter		Half & Half	The Insider	Entertainment	Paid Program
	298	653	65	TLA	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Smallville "Abyss" (N) (CC)		Supernatural (N) (CC)		KTLA Prime News (CC)		Friends (CC)
	295	651	66	WGN	WGN News at Nine (N) (CC)		Family Guy	Two/Half Men	According-Jim	Sex and-City	Friends (CC)	Will & Grace	My Wife-Kids
	297	652	67	WPX	NFL Football: Jets at Patriots		CW11 News at Ten (N) (CC)		Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Sex and-City	Will & Grace	According-Jim
	199	311	76	STR	News (N)	News		Late Show-Letterman		(:37) Life on Mars (N) (CC)		Late Late Show	
news	502	390	26	NW	The Adventurers (N) (CC)		CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National		The Adventurers (CC)		National
	500	500	33	CNN	CNN Presents: Jonestown		Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)		CNN Presents "Escape From Jonestown" (CC)				Cooper 360
sports	407	419	22	RSP	World Combat League (CC)		Hockey	Simply	Best Damn Sports Show		Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Sportsnet
	400	400	30	TSN	NFL Football: Jets at Patriots		SportsCentre (Live) (CC)		E:60 (N) (CC)		Poker Night (Taped)		SportsCentre
	411	457	49	OLN	Pilot Guides Specials (CC)		Pilot Guides (CC)		Don't Forget Your Passport		Commando: On the Front Line		Survivorman
	410	403	54	SCR	Football	Score Tonight	Score Tonight		Score on NFL	Final Score	Sports Rage		Final Score
	417	406	55	SC	Wrecked	Wrecked	Pinks	Pass Time	This Week in NASCAR		Pinks -- All Out		Wrecked
	416	409	144	GLF	Extra Time		Gol TV News		Soccer Cam	Hidden Story	Extra Time		Gol TV News
family	552	543	25	YTV	H2O, Just Add	Prank Patrol	Malcolm-Mid.	Sabrina-Witch	Futurama	Prank Patrol	Mystery Hnt.	Adrenaline	Mystery Hnt.
	555	545	50	TEL	George	Bugs Bunny & Tweety Show		Wayside	Johnny Test	Futurama	The Critic	Chicken	Code
	557	541	51	FAM	Wizards-Place	That's-Raven	Zack & Cody	Naturally	Han. Montana	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
	553	546	56	TRE	Comfy Couch	Rolie Polie	Beren. Bears	Babar (CC)	Backyard	Dora-Explorer	Go, Diego, Go!	Franklin	Comfy Couch
cable variety	268	354	5	KNO	Leading Edge	Big Ideas	Hemingway Adventure (N)		Art of the Heist Rubens.		Arthur Erickson		Fighting-Fears
	575	583	20	CMT	42nd Annual CMA Awards		CMA Awards Red Carpet		The 42nd Annual CMA Awards Festivities honor excellence in country music.				
	570	580	24	MM	50 Cent: Money and Power		Muchmusic Countdown (CC)			Pimp My Ride	MuchVibe (CC)		Spotlight
	600	564	29	H&G	Home to Flip	Real Renos	Holmes on Homes (CC)		The Fix (CC)	Disaster DIY	Home to Flip	Real Renos	Holmes
	615	520	31	A&E	The First 48 (CC)		Crime 360 "Fatal Feud" (CC)		The First 48 "Silenced" (CC)		The First 48 (CC)		The First 48
	628	584	32	SPKE	(6:00) TNA iMPACT! (N) (CC)		Jackass	Jackass	UFC 91 Countdown		UFC: Access	UFC: Access	Jackass
	521	560	34	TLC	LA Ink "Kat Gets Hypnotized"		American Chopper (CC)		LA Ink "Kat Gets Hypnotized"		American Chopper "Jet Bike"		Overhaulin'
	616	522	39	SHO	Painkiller Jane "Friendly Fire"		ReGenesis (CC)		Trailer Park	Trailer Park	Saving Grace (CC)		House (CC)
	620	523	40	BVO	Saddest Music in the World		Law & Order "Ambitious"		Without a Trace (CC)		Cheaters ★★★ (2000) Jeff Daniels. (CC)		
	601	562	41	SLC	The Biggest Loser (CC)		Rich Bride, Poor Bride (CC)		X-Weighted "Kristi" (CC)		The Biggest Loser (CC)		Trading Sp
	520	505	42	DIS	MythBusters (CC)		Daily Planet (CC)		Monster Moves "Tall Towers"		Science of Interrogation		True Stories
	522	506	44	HIS	NCIS "Forced Entry" (CC)		Battlefield Mysteries (CC)		Battlefield Mysteries (CC)		NCIS "Forced Entry" (CC)		Bloody Italy
	627	528	45	SPC	Chuck "Chuck Versus the Ex"		Stargate SG-1 "Unending"		Lost "Maternity Leave" (CC)		Star Trek: Deep Space Nine		Star Trek
	294	650	47	TBS	Underworld ★★ (2003, Horror) (PA) Kate Beckinsale. (CC)				Sex and-City	Sex and-City	(:10) Kicking & Screaming ★★ (2005) (CC)		
	619	525	48	TROP	Beverly Hills, 90210 (CC)		Make	What	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier (CC)	Family Guy
	603	561	52	FN	Jamie's Kitchen Australia		Restaurant Makeover (CC)		Challenge (CC)		Unwrapped	Secret Life of	Jamie
	626	547	57	COM	Air Farce	Just for Laughs (CC)		Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	VIP	Choc. News	Daily Show
	320	621	60	CEN	(6:30) Steel Toes ★★ (2006)		There Will Be Blood ★★★★ (2007, Drama) Daniel Day-Lewis, Paul Dano.					The Last King of Scotland	
	581	566	101	MTV	Exiled Eastern Panama. (CC)		MTV Live	After	Man and Wife	The Hills	Exiled Eastern Panama. (CC)		MTV Live
	261	394	102	V	(6:00) Sergeant York ★★★★ (1941, War) Gary Cooper.				The Trench		Canada Remembers		Paid Program
	-	-	109	MUL	Matchmaker	Mom's-Upset	Vancouver	Kirdaar	Dheeyan Ghar	Sadabahar	Desi-Mama	Desi Rhythms	Patrol World

critics' corner

The Saddest Music in the World
Isabella Rossellini stars in this offbeat 2003 musical comedy as a beer baroness in 1930s Winnipeg. She offers $25,000 to whoever can produce the world's most melancholy melody, drawing contenders from all over the globe, including a washed-up Broadway producer (Mark McKinney, "Kids in the Hall") and his brother (Ross McMillan), who's posing as a Serbian cellist. Maria de Medeiros and David Fox also star. 6 PM on BVO

My Name Is Earl
Earl (Jason Lee) remembers his first wedding anniversary with Joy (Jaime Pressly), when Randy (Ethan Suplee) threw them a surprise party. But when Earl's more successful and handsome cousin (guest star Jason Priestley) shows up, Earl feels inadequate. Meanwhile, killer bees have descended on Camden County, trapping Darnell, Catalina, Kenny and Patty the Daytime Hooker (Eddie Steeples, Nadine Velazquez, Gregg Binkley, Dale Dickey) in a phone booth 8 PM on JOY NBC

Sandler has another sequel

Adam Sandler and his wife have welcomed their second child, the comedian has announced. "Jackie and Adam had a beautiful baby girl, Sunny Madeline on Nov. 2," Sandler posted on his website. "Everyone is happy and healthy." **PEOPLE.COM**

Celebrity Buzz

Will Brangelina add to the brood?

FAMILY Actors Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt are reportedly eager to adopt a child from South America, but they are finding it difficult to negotiate the complicated adoption laws, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The couple already has three adopted children: Maddox, 7, Pax, 4, and Zahara, 3. They also have three biological children: Shiloh, 2, and baby twins Knox and Vivienne.

"We've thought about South or Latin America, but it's very complicated," Jolie says. "Brad and I aren't married, so, as a technically single woman, there are lots of countries I can't adopt from. And, as a technically single man, most countries wouldn't allow Brad to adopt at all. Some countries won't let you adopt a child if you already have a child of the same gender at home."

GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Aniston says mind your own business

PRIVACY Jennifer Aniston has a simple message when it comes to her on-again relationship with John Mayer: "People need to mind their own business," the actress tells Vogue in its December issue, People.com reports.

Of course, Aniston, 39, understands why so many people are intrigued by their romance. There's the age difference — Mayer is eight years younger — and the musician's high-profile past relationships with starlets like Jessica Simpson.

"Did you ever think Claudia Schiffer and David Copperfield made sense?" Aniston says.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Madge sets rules

DIVORCE If Guy Ritchie wants to see his kids, he better follow the strict rules his estranged wife Madonna has laid down, PageSix.com reports. She demands that while Rocco, 8 and David, 3, are with their dad in London, they can't read newspapers or magazines, meet any of his girlfriends, or have their photograph taken, the Daily Mail reports.

Madonna also reportedly insists the boys drink only kabbalah water, wear clothes made from natural fibers, and play with "spiritually and ethically" sound toys.

Lourdes, Madonna's 12- year-old daughter by Carlos Leon, remains with her in New York.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

HELLO! Hot shot of the week

PETER BREGG/HELLO! CANADA

Canada's own Christopher Plummer poses with "my partner and my life," his wife of 40 years, Elaine, in Toronto. The veteran stage and screen actor — best known for his portrayal of Captain von Trapp in The Sound of Music — recently released his memoir, In Spite of Myself, which candidly documents his love of drinking and, in his earlier years, womanizing. "I chose the naughty side of life," he tells HELLO! Canada.

HELLO! CANADA magazine, now available on newsstands – read more at hellomagazine.ca

Fergie feasts for filming

DIET Singer Fergie isn't worried about putting weight on this holiday season, usmagazine.com reports.

"I've actually gained 10 pounds!" she said. "No, really — for the film, Nine. Actually, 13 to be exact."

"I ate everything!" she continued. "Fish and chips. Everything fried — things I don't normally eat."

But now, she said, "I have to give it up! So, yeah, I'm in that phase! Back to diet designs — my food delivery service!"

Fergie also added that she doesn't have any post-holiday workout plans.

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Farrell finishes Hedger flick with Depp, Law

LEGACY Colin Farrell, Johnny Depp and Jude Law hit headlines earlier this year when they stepped in to help finish Heath Ledger's final film The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus, which was shot in Vancouver. But the decision to climb on board and bring to life his good friend's role was torment for Farrell, foxnews.com reports.

"It was a very difficult decision to make, when I first heard about it I totally freaked at the idea," Farrell told Tarts.

"But it was important to get Heath's work out and doing what I think Heath would have wanted, which was finishing the movie to its entirety."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Nicole loves Keith!

SWEET LOVE Nicole Kidman has paid a gushing tribute to husband Keith Urban, imdb.com reports.

The couple wed in 2006. The actress couldn't hide her happiness at the Glamour awards show in New York on Monday, thanking her country star beau for loving her.

"Three-and-a-half years ago, a man came along and said, 'I'm going to take you to Tennessee.' And he took me down there and he said, 'I think you deserve to be loved. Let me love you, let me give you a home, and let's make a baby.' So thank you, Keith Lionel," Kidman said.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Blake has lots of baggage

STORAGE One of the best parts of being on Gossip Girl for Blake Lively is having nice handbags, People.com reports her as saying.

"I probably have, like, 60 gorgeous bags," the 21-year-old tells W in the December issue.

"I have a closet with my really sharp, fancy, nice ones — the ones that go with my Valentino pumps, for example. And then I have a closet with the ones that are a little more rugged-feeling, the kind that go with my Belstaff motorcycle boots."

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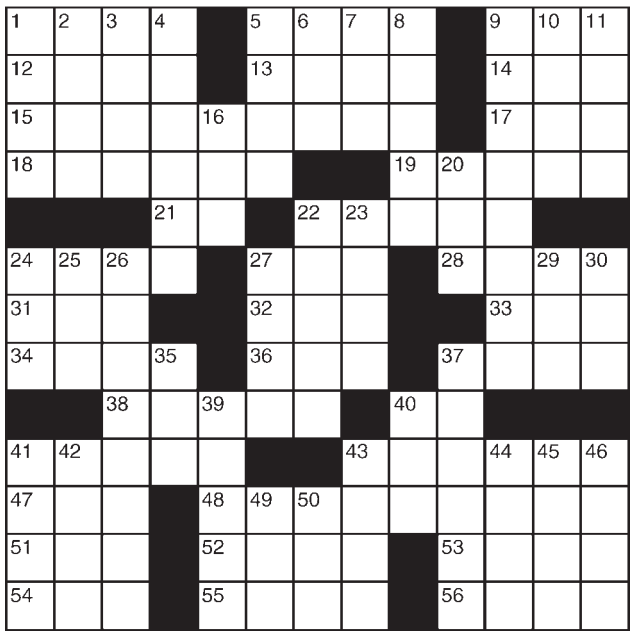
Take Five



Crossword across

1 Ring out
5 Spud's buds
9 Crony
12 Malaria symptom
13 Freebie
14 Latin 101 word
15 It opens in the fall
17 Tier
18 Slowly
19 Out of dreamland
21 "People" competitor
22 Bob Woodward book
24 Put one over on
27 Foundation
28 Swindle
31 Historic time
32 Lubricant
33 Witness
34 Pink-slip
36 Exist
37 Nasty
38 Trophy, e.g.
40 Familiar greeting
41 Shaggy hairdos
43 Panda food
47 E.T.'s craft
48 Supreme
51 — Lanka
52 Object of devotion
53 Blue matter
54 Turf
55 Yield
56 Lhasa — (dog)

Crossword down

1 One of the Three Bears
2 "Zounds!"
3 Emanation
4 Group of teams
5 Reverberate
6 Thee
7 Ambulance VIP
8 Lance
9 Eden
10 Beyond control
11 Actor Rob
16 Opposite of "trans-"
20 Symbol of intrigue
22 Bizarre
23 Not working
24 Updated "groovy"
25 Spoon-bender Geller
26 Overly fearful
27 Piglets' pop
29 Meadow
30 Barbie's friend
35 Ram's mate
37 Champagne + O.J.
39 Jellied entree
40 Scenery chewer
41 Disarrange
42 Frizzy do
43 Curse
44 Dislodge
45 Responsibility
46 "Beetle Bailey" dog
49 Expert
50 Scepter

Sudoku

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

	8			4	2			
2	9			3		6		4
		3	9			8	5	
	3	6			4		2	1
			7		6			
9	4		1			5	6	
	7	1			5	3		
6		4		7			8	5
			4	8			7	

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

S	A	F	E	■	G	E	L	■	S	T	A	R		
I	C	O	N	■	O	L	E	■	T	H	E	E		
T	H	R	E	W	O	F	F	■	E	R	O	S		
S	E	E	M	E	D	■	T	A	L	E	N	T		
■	■	■	■	Y	E	S	■	S	O	L	E	■	■	■
A	C	T	■	P	O	T	■	L	A	W	N	S		
D	A	H	L	■	N	O	H	■	R	A	I	L		
S	P	R	A	T	■	P	U	G	■	Y	A	Y		
■	■	■	E	X	A	M	■	N	O	D	■	■	■	■
B	O	N	N	I	E	■	D	R	E	A	M	T		
A	L	O	E	■	T	H	R	E	S	H	E	R		
R	I	D	S	■	R	A	E	■	K	E	N	O		
T	O	Y	S	■	O	L	D	■	S	M	U	T		

1	9	4	2	6	5	8	3	7
3	6	2	4	7	8	1	9	5
8	7	5	1	9	3	6	2	4
5	1	8	3	2	7	4	6	9
9	3	6	5	1	4	2	7	8
2	4	7	9	8	6	5	1	3
7	5	3	6	4	2	9	8	1
6	8	9	7	5	1	3	4	2
4	2	1	8	3	9	7	5	6

Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:
Under 13 min .....Genius
13-17 min.....Scholar
17-21 min .....Smart
21-25 min .....Not bad
25+ min.....Keep practising

Metro Recipe of the Day

Spicy Broccoli and Cauliflower

INGREDIENTS:
5 cloves garlic
1 green chili pepper
2 tbsp (25 mL) olive oil
1 lb (500g) broccoli florets
1 lb (500g) cauliflower florets
2 oz (50g) Emmenthal cheese
2 oz (50g) Cheddar cheese
3 tbsp (45 mL) dried bread crumbs
2 tbsp (25 mL) capers
1–2 tbsp (15–25 mL) pickled green peppercorns
Salt and black pepper

METHOD:
1. Preheat the broiler and put a pot of water on to boil.
2. Peel and thinly slice garlic. Seed and chop chili pepper.
3. Heat oil in a frying pan or large wok with a lid. Add garlic and chili pepper, stir in broccoli and cauliflower florets, sprinkle with salt and pepper, and add 3/4 cup (150 mL) boiling water. Cover pan and cook vegetables over high heat for 4–5 minutes, until they are tender. Stir or toss halfway through cooking. Drain well.
4. Meanwhile, grate Emmenthal and Cheddar cheeses and mix them with bread crumbs.

5. Stir capers and peppercorns into vegetables. Transfer to a shallow flameproof dish, sprinkle cheese and bread crumb mixture over the top, and place under broiler until cheese melts and topping turns golden. Serve hot.

SERVES 4

rd.ca
For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
A speaker has reservations about you. A group looks to you for support. A passionate encounter is ruined by bad timing.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
A dubious tale threatens a newfound friendship. A whiner gives up on optimism. A practical person puts away remorse.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Cut a long story short to steer clear of slippery slopes. A hidden opponent makes a conversion. Uncertainty about work continues.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Excessive responsibility can lead to arguments. An encounter in a corridor will end a bad situation. Exhausting events force your eyes open.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
Everyone's talking about what's about to happen. Running wild affects your work prospects. You'll live up to your own expectations.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Winning an argument will be frustrating. Be truthful with a special person. A perky woman will do things properly.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
A fateful meeting will be remembered. The cost of disagreeing is not worth it. Refuse to take part in cruel activities.

SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22
Don't play rough with an immature guy. Ethical problems must be dealt with. A VIP impresses others with a new technique.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21
A strong man is hiding something. A dramatic person frightens people. Lethargic daydreamers start to irritate you.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
Accept an invitation if you care about someone. Take a walk on the wild side. Bungling fails to amuse you.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
Expect some good things to come your way. A helpful person single-handedly goes off track. Certainty develops about a messy romance.

PISCES
FEB 19-MARCH 20
Give someone extra respect and concede a loss. Other people won't argue unless you do. Avoid complaints after a spirited encounter.

This day in history

NOV. 13, 1775: American Revolutionary War: Patriot revolutionary forces under Col. Ethan Allen attack Montreal, Quebec defended by British General Guy Carleton.
NOV. 13, 1841: James Braid first sees a demonstration of animal magnetism, which leads to his study of the subject he eventually calls hypnosis.
NOV. 13, 1956: United States Supreme Court declares Alabama and Montgomery, Alabama laws requiring segregated buses illegal; thus ending the Montgomery Bus Boycott.
NOV. 13, 1990: The World Wide Web first began.

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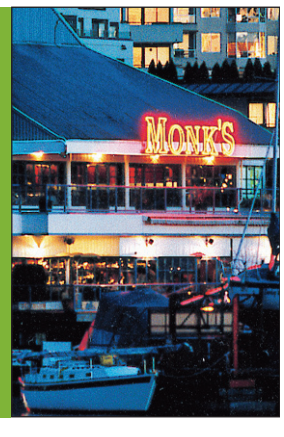

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